

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method to be performed in a computer system having stored
2 therein an electronic document that is associated with another electronic
3 document, the method comprising:

4 displaying a view of a selected electronic document on a graphical user
5 interface; and

6 displaying on the graphical user interface, while displaying the view of the
7 selected electronic document, a user-selectable command that causes a view of
8 at least one other electronic document that is associated with the selected
9 electronic document to be displayed on the graphical user interface.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the user-selectable command is
2 displayed in response to a user selecting an input control in a toolbar of the
3 graphical user interface.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected electronic document is
2 associated with each of a plurality of other electronic documents, and wherein
3 the method further comprises displaying on the graphical user interface a
4 plurality of user-selectable commands for displaying views of the plurality of other
5 electronic documents.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein associations between the selected
2 electronic document and each of the plurality of other electronic documents
3 belong to any of a plurality of association categories.

1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the method further comprises
2 grouping the plurality of user-selectable links according to the plurality of
3 association categories.

1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein the selected electronic document
2 and the plurality of other electronic documents form a hierarchy.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein one of the association categories
2 provides navigation upward in the hierarchy.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein one of the association categories
2 provides navigation downward in the hierarchy.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a predetermined input upon a user selecting the user-selectable
3 command; and
4 in response to receiving the predetermined input, displaying on the
5 graphical user interface the view of the at least one other electronic document.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising ceasing to display the
2 view of the selected electronic document upon displaying the at least one other
3 electronic document.

1 11. The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying another user-
2 selectable command on the graphical user interface that causes the view of the
3 selected electronic document to be displayed on the graphical user interface.

1 12. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information
2 carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed,
3 cause a processor to perform instructions comprising:
4 display a view of a selected electronic document on a graphical user
5 interface; and
6 display on the graphical user interface, while displaying the view of the
7 selected electronic document, a user-selectable command that causes a view of
8 at least one other electronic document that is associated with the selected
9 electronic document to be displayed on the graphical user interface.

1 13. The computer program product of claim 12, wherein the operations
2 further comprise:
3 receive a predetermined input upon a user selecting the user-selectable
4 command; and
5 in response to receiving the predetermined input, display on the graphical
6 user interface the at least one other electronic document.

1 14. A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information
2 carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed,
3 generate on a display device a graphical user interface for user navigation
4 between electronic documents that are associated with each other, the graphical
5 user interface comprising:
6 a document display area wherein a view of a selected electronic document
7 can be displayed; and

8 a user-selectable command that causes, while the view of the selected
9 electronic document is being displayed, a view of at least one other electronic
10 document that is associated with the selected electronic document to be
11 displayed in the document display area.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the graphical
2 user interface further includes a toolbar with an input control, wherein the user-
3 selectable command appears in a menu that is displayed on the graphical user
4 interface upon user selection of the input control.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the selected
2 electronic document is associated with each of a plurality of other electronic
3 documents, and wherein the graphical user interface includes a plurality of user-
4 selectable commands for displaying views of the plurality of other electronic
5 documents.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein associations
2 between the selected electronic document and each of the plurality of other
3 electronic documents belong to any of a plurality of association categories, and
4 wherein the plurality of user-selectable commands is grouped according to the
5 plurality of association categories.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the selected
2 electronic document and the plurality of other electronic documents form a
3 hierarchy.

1 19. The computer program product of claim 18, wherein one of the
2 association categories provides navigation upward in the hierarchy.

1 20. The computer program product of claim 18, wherein one of the
2 association categories provides navigation downward in the hierarchy.